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See back page MAZADA TOURS Middle East Experts Jordan & Egypt

The Diamond Anniversary Festival presents America's most tasty home-baked products

In today's Business Supplement Hi-tech start-up fights car accidents... Money

Mubarak calls for shared prosperity at Cairo conference

DAVID HARRIS and news agencies CAIRO OPENING the third Middle East/North Africa Economic conference, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called yesterday for the continuation of "sustained and shared prosperity" for the region.

through privatization and liberalization. "Growth in the 21st century lies in exports," Mubarak said. This is key to creating more jobs, he said.



MENA Economic Summit Jordanians, and the Gulf. Businessmen can feel the potential.

smaller operations, like Barbara Faktor, managing director of Arkia Medical. They all speak optimistically about prospects for a successful three-day conference.

"We want this conference to say to Israel, 'Look around you, there are 10,000 businessmen here talking about cooperation and development. But look behind you - if you don't carry out the commitments you made, you won't get any of it,'" he added.



Finance Minister Dan Meridor (left) consults with Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel yesterday at Cairo's Middle East/North Africa Economic Conference.

Indyk hosts top-level bid for Hebron deal

BATSHEVA TSUR and DAVID HARRIS



HIGH-LEVEL Israeli and Palestinian negotiators were cloistered in talks last night at the Herzliya Pimuh residence of US Ambassador Martin Indyk.

"His presence is necessary here at this sensitive juncture," one official said. The prime minister is due to address the annual assembly of North American Jewish federations in Seattle tomorrow night.

Meanwhile, despite an earlier statement by Foreign Minister David Levy that an agreement was imminent and could even be signed today, other sources to Jerusalem remained pessimistic.

drawals in the West Bank, aide David Bar-Ilan told Reuters yesterday. In Cairo, meanwhile, US mediator Dennis Ross was standing by to see whether to come here today to finalize the agreement.

Levy demands Azzam's release

DAVID HARRIS CAIRO

FOREIGN Minister David Levy yesterday demanded the Egyptian government immediately release Azzam Azzam, an Israeli citizen who was arrested last week for spying.

State attorney decides to indict Ne'eman

EVELYN GORDON

STATE Attorney Edna Arbel said yesterday that she has decided to indict former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman for perjury and obstructing justice.

Ne'eman is alleged to have pressured, repeatedly denied the incident took place. Arbel decided there was not enough evidence to make the charge stick.

court, Ne'eman, who is currently in the US, will have a hearing with Arbel at which he can try to convince her of his innocence.

Swiss verify 11 claims for Holocaust victims' wealth

ZURICH - A Swiss banking ombudsman in charge of seeking out dormant accounts of Holocaust victims said yesterday that banks had confirmed 11 valid requests for 1.6 million Swiss francs (\$1.3m.) in unclaimed wealth.

News agencies something has been found." He said the 51 searches he has conducted so far resulted from 2,229 requests for assistance received during the first nine months of the year.

The cellphone plague: Don't call us - or anybody

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

AT first they were novel. Then they became irritating. Now, Israel's cellular phones have become the modern equivalent of an Egyptian plague.

on city sidewalks while shouting into a little rectangle of black plastic. It may have looked amusing for a while. But now that one can no longer have a quiet morning coffee over the newspaper in a favorite cafe without at least three or four strange creatures hollering into their cellular phones, the joke has worn very thin.

ject is at least a small gesture to halt terrorism against innocent citizens by cellular fanatics. The inspiration came from councilor Amir Halevy, head of the city's inspection department.

and quiet in a graveyard without the infuriating din of cellphones ringing into action all around. Nor is quiet guaranteed in a synagogue, a library or a university lecture hall.

India jet-crash claims 350 lives

ABOUT 350 people were feared dead yesterday, after a Saudi Arabian jumbo jet and a Kazakh airliner collided in midair west of New Delhi, aviation officials said.

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Horev pleads not guilty in precedent-setting court-martial

COLONEL Moni Horev, head of the IDF Officers' Training School, and four other Givati officers pleaded not guilty yesterday in a precedent-setting court-martial on charges that they caused the death by negligence of a soldier under their command nearly three years ago.

Accompanied by their lawyers, Horev, who had been the soldier's brigade commander at the time, and the other officers - Lt. Col. David Ohana, who was the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Sagi Talmi, who was the deputy battalion commander, Capt. Efraim Meshov, who was the company commander, and Sec. Lt. Eliahu Chen, who was the platoon leader - listened as a military tribunal meeting in a special court in Tel Aviv read out the indictment charging them in the death of Givati Sgt. Yanai Shoshan. Shoshan was mortally wounded after a fragmentation grenade went off in his webbing during training.

A military investigation found the February

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

1994 accident occurred because Shoshan was not aware of safety regulations. Horev and four other officers are being charged with negligence for not ensuring these regulations were followed. The court-martial will decide for the first time whether a brigade commander is responsible for enforcing safety regulations or whether this responsibility lies with less senior officers.

The court-martial, which comes following persistent civilian court pressure by Shoshan's parents, is being watched by senior officers, many of whom see it as a dangerous precedent of outsiders meddling in internal military affairs.

Two weeks ago, the High Court of Justice rejected a petition by Shoshan's parents against Horev's appointment as head of the officer training school. The Shoshans charged that allowing Horev to continue in his post was sending a message that officers can afford to be careless

with their soldiers' lives. But the court ruled in favor of the army, which reasoned that it was unfair to suspend Horev before the military court had ruled. It also accepted the claim that even if Horev was found guilty, it did not necessarily justify his being removed from the post.

Yesterday, Horev's attorney, Eli Zohar, told Israel Radio his client should not be held accountable for the accident since Shoshan's Givati battalion was under the responsibility of the Lebanon front brigade at the time. He said the trial is likely to last for some time.

"I don't want to relate to what the results of a guilty verdict will be. A lot of water will pass under the bridge before we come to that stage. I believe he will be found not guilty," Zohar said.

The court will allow the prosecution to reply and then decide whether to separate Horev's trial from the others, Israel Radio said.

Shoshan's parents did not attend the opening of the court-martial.



Interior Minister Avigdor Kahalani (center) shakes hands with Faisal Hussein yesterday. Kahalani met with Hussein and Ahmed Tibi (right) in his Tel Aviv office to discuss issues related to the peace process. (Dana Stern)

MKs debate beautification of Goldstein's grave

A DISCUSSION on the beautification of Baruch Goldstein's grave descended into a left-right exchange in the Knesset Interior Committee yesterday. It was eventually decided to ask State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat to investigate how the area around the grave of the man who murdered 29 Moslem worshippers in Hebron in 1994 has been turned into a garden site serving visitors.

The committee also decided to ask the Religious Affairs Ministry and civil administration to consider transferring the grave to a more modest site.

Committee chairman Salah Tarif said he had invited Mossad chief Danny Yatom and Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz to explain to the committee why, as former OC Central Command and military commander of Judea and Samaria respectively, they had given permission for the grave to be placed in Kiryat Arba; but the two refused to appear. Tarif has asked Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to order the two and former government coordinator in the territories Danny Rothschild to appear before the committee.

In a discussion marked by acrimony, MK Benny Elon (Moledei) walked out to protest what he said was its politically motivated timing

LIAT COLLINS and HERB KEINON

as part of a public campaign against the Hebron Jewish Community.

He was backed by MK Rafi Eilul (Labor), but MK Avraham Stern (National Religious Party) supported Elon's stand, saying that, at a sensitive time of high public feeling over the Hebron issue, the committee should "take care not to fan the flames of baseless hatred or add fuel to the fire."

Kiryat Arba spokesman Tzuril Popovitch said the settlement had neither initiated, planned, nor funded the grave site for Goldstein.

The grave is located in Meir Kahane Park, near the entrance to the settlement. In addition to the tombstone, the site includes a tile floor, a wash basin, two book cupboards, and a charity box. A sign put up by the family states that the site is meant only for prayers and psalms, and that men and women should stand separate.

Goldstein's grave is inscribed with the word "martyr," and the inscription: "He gave his life for the people of Israel, its Torah, and its land... He was killed sanctifying God's name."

Popovitch said that both the settlement and the family wanted Goldstein to be buried in Hebron,

but that the IDF refused, saying that would "cause a pogrom." Instead, Popovitch said the IDF suggested burying him in Kiryat Arba, even though there is no cemetery there.

The construction of the site had all the necessary permits from the army, Popovitch said, and was paid for by the family.

Popovitch said the reason a tile floor was put around the grave was because otherwise the area would be full of mud. The wash basin and bookcases for prayer books and Psalms are all standard equipment at cemeteries, he said.

"Goldstein has a wife, children, and parents, and they should have the right to go to his grave," Popovitch said, adding that he does not think the site is too "magnificent."

Komemiyut Yisraeli, a Kach-related local party which Goldstein represented for a brief time in the Kiryat Arba local council, issued a statement yesterday saying that Goldstein was "a holy man" and vowed not to let his grave be moved from Kiryat Arba.

Meanwhile, the Goldstein family yesterday celebrated the bar mitzva of the family's oldest son. The family hired a security firm to keep the celebration private. Goldstein had four children.

Federman appeals detention to High Court

EVELYN GORDON

NOAM Federman, the former spokesman for the outlawed Kach movement who was put under administrative detention for two months earlier this week, petitioned the High Court of Justice against his detention yesterday.

Federman's attorney, Naftali Werzberger, argued that the order is illegal. Under the order, Federman is supposed to be held in the Sharon Prison in Tel Mond, but he is actually in Ashmoret Prison in Kfar Yona, Werzberger said. Even if an administrative order is violated only in this kind of technicality, the order becomes null and void, Werzberger said.

The lawyer also charged the detention is politically motivated and is not based on a definite security risk.

The detention reportedly was ordered for fear that Federman, who lives in Hebron's Beit Hadassah, would cause problems if and when the IDF withdraws from the city.

The petition also brought up the fact that Federman is being held in a special wing of Ashdod Prison for prisoners with AIDS; if that is true, Werzberger said, it is an unjustified punishment - especially given that Federman is an administrative detainee and has not been charged with a crime.

Federman also has an appeal pending with the military court in Beit El. Werzberger decided to petition the High Court as well, because the military court scheduled its hearing for three days after Federman filed his appeal. Under the circumstances, Werzberger said, that is too long a delay.

Kahalani discusses peace moves with Hussein, Tibi

RAINE MARCUS

INTERNAL Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani met for the first time yesterday with Faisal Hussein and Yasser Arafat's aide Ahmed Tibi to discuss contentious issues related to the peace process.

At the meeting in Kahalani's Tel Aviv office, Hussein and Tibi complained about the effects of the prolonged closure of the territories, police roadblocks, Hebron redeployment and other issues.

Kahalani promised to arrange a meeting between Hussein and Interior Minister Eli Shniss to deal with complaints from eastern Jerusalem residents who say that when they return from living abroad for several years, they find their identity cards have been confiscated.

Hussein said this phenomenon is widespread. In some cases, Palestinian women with Israeli identity cards are forced to hand



them over when they marry Arabs from the territories, he said.

Hussein said the ban on Palestinians from entering Israel could only encourage terror attacks and would not have the desired deterrent effect.

Tibi accused Netanyahu of time-wasting over agreements between Israel and the PA. He said as soon as the government "decides to honor the agreement, Arafat will sign."

Asked about redeployment from Hebron, Kahalani said he believes the process will be more peaceful than others anticipate.

"De facto, most of Hebron is not in our hands, and Jewish residents will get more security than at present," Kahalani said. "I believe there is no reason for anyone to ignite the flame, which will only cause both sides harm." He urged both sides to exercise restraint.

Earlier, at a ceremony to unveil new vehicles for the traffic police, Kahalani responded to questions about the missing soldier Sharon Edri and speculation he was kidnapped by a terror organization.

"At the moment, there is no information as to his whereabouts," Kahalani said. "Initially we believed that the reason for his disappearance was personal. Now we - together with security forces and other bodies - are examining other possibilities."

"The police is doing everything possible to discover clues as to what happened to Edri, and I am sure that other forces are doing their utmost too."

Beilin tells Fatah committee final settlement is inevitable

LIAT COLLINS

MK Yossi Beilin (Labor) told members of the Fatah action committee in Ramallah yesterday that "The basic lines of the permanent arrangements are known to us all. The question is how much blood will be shed until we understand that they are inevitable."

Beilin, accompanied by Oslo architect Ron Pundak and some Labor party members, was the first Labor representative to meet with this forum.

It was decided to establish a joint Israeli-Palestinian committee to develop a systematic and broad dialogue between different sectors

of the two societies.

"Instead of wasting time studying the intentions of [Palestinian Authority Chairman] Yasser Arafat and Binyamin Netanyahu, it would be better for the peace camp to further the process both together and separately by educating for peace both in Israel and among the Palestinians," Beilin said.

The Fatah heads raised several questions on the Beilin-Avru Mazen understandings on the permanent arrangements. Beilin said that had the participants in the

meetings been asked to write down the nature of the permanent arrangements, "everybody, both Israelis and Palestinians, would have described a very similar plan."

The Palestinians, and in particular Marwan Barghouti, Fatah head in the West Bank, said the redeployment in the West Bank is even more important than in Hebron. They expressed fears that after the Hebron redeployment the peace process will come to a halt. They also said they fear the government's plans to increase settlements.

Egyptians have held several Israelis on spy charges

BACKGROUND STEVE RODAN

AZZAM Azzam is by no means the first Israeli to be accused of spying by Egypt since the two nations signed their peace treaty in 1979. Judging by the mood in Egyptian ruling circles, he will probably not be the last.

Last month, Defense Minister Hussein Tantawi warned Egyptian youths against Israeli efforts to recruit them as spies. Tantawi said Israel targets soldiers and military-school graduates.

In the last few weeks, Egypt's media have been full of reports of espionage. Several weeks ago, the Interior Ministry arrested 56 Egyptians and charged them with planning to flood the country with Shi'ite pamphlets and cassettes. At the same time, prominent Egyptian journalists were accused



Azzam Azzam (Photo courtesy of Yodanis Ahroon)

spies and have warned Egyptians to keep away from the building. At the same time, several Israelis have been accused of espionage.

Businessman David Ovitz was held for two months in 1992 on suspicion of espionage. Another Israeli, Fares Subhi Masran, and his 17-year-old daughter, Fayga, were arrested and reportedly confessed to being recruited by the Mossad.

In 1990, two divers from then Israeli-controlled Rafiah were charged in Sinai with introducing an Egyptian woman to an Israeli agent, who offered her money to spy for Israel.

On the other hand, several Egyptians have been jailed in Israel over the past decade for spying for Cairo. Officials have said they believe some of the Egyptian arrests of Israelis on espionage charges are connected to efforts to free convicted Egyptian spies from Israeli prisons.

NE'EMAN

(Continued from Page 1) Brown also accused Ne'eman of making similar statements on other occasions, the memorandum said.

Ne'eman used the memorandum to try to discredit Ben-Yair's motives. He has said the police and the State Attorney's Office knew about the memorandum for four years, but never did anything about it until Ne'eman was appointed a minister and Yitzhak filed his petition.

Ben-Yair says it is standard policy not to investigate such statements by a witness until the witness has testified for fear of weakening his testimony in the main trial. By chance, Brown's testimony took place a few days before Ne'eman's appointment.

Palestinian woman shot near Hebron

News agencies

A PALESTINIAN woman was shot in the leg and lightly wounded yesterday near Hebron in what family members described as a drive-by attack by Jewish settlers. Judea and Samaria District police, however, say the attack never happened.

Officials at Hebron's Alia Hospital said Nuziha Abu-Hmeid, 50, was in satisfactory

condition after being shot near Yatta village. The incident allegedly occurred when the woman, her husband, and two family members arrived to work a field they own near the village. "While we were getting out of our cars, a blue car suddenly appeared and came at us.

Suddenly 10 bullets were fired from the car and one of them hit my wife," said Ibrahim Abu Shakir, 55. He said he identified the gunmen as settlers by their long beards and kippot.

Police sources said the Hebron district liaison office had investigated the matter and concluded that the family's version of events was unfounded.

Kiryat Shmona dedicates airplane factory today

A \$40 million project to produce a locally designed executive aircraft at a factory in Kiryat Shmona is now reaching its final stages.

Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee and two major IDF operations in Lebanon (Accountability and Grapes of Wrath), as well as technical and financial problems, have combined to put plans behind schedule.

Nevertheless, the aviation

company believes the final version of its prototype ST-50 turboprop will be ready as planned by March.

It is then that the plane will begin extensive tests to gain its flight certification from the local Civil Aviation Administration and the all-important US Federal Aviation Administration.

An experimental version has already accumulated 70 hours of flight time, including a trip to Jordan and one emergency landing in a field near Kiryat Shmona when the engine failed.

An investigation of that incident found that the problem was caused by a fault in the engine, although the plane itself, made of advanced composite materials, managed to land safely even without power.

The prototype was hunk in the air within 12 days and has performed excellently ever since, according to Israaviation.

The firm recently moved into spacious new premises at Kiryat Shmona's airfield, which has complete facilities for mass production of the five-seater aircraft. The \$6m. factory is to be inaugurated today.

AZZAM

(Continued from Page 1) arrest, Levy said the Egyptian authorities must release him since he is innocent.

Azzam's brother, Wafa, attended a press conference with other family members, at which he pleaded with Levy to act on his brother's behalf.

It is impossible that Azzam would be a spy, his brother said. "If I asked him, 'Who is the Egyptian foreign minister?' he wouldn't know. Please, Mr. Levy, don't take this lightly."

"This is of the highest priority," Levy replied. "He is an Israeli citizen."

Wafa Azzam said he appreciates Levy's concern, but "I'll only relax when he's at home with me."

Egyptian government newspapers said yesterday that security authorities had arrested an Israeli and an Egyptian a few days ago on charges of spying for Israel.

The daily *Al-Ahram* said several charges, including espionage, were brought against the two men, and a prosecutor had ordered them remanded for 15 days.

"Security authorities uncovered the involvement of an Egyptian and an Israeli of Arab origin in working for the Israeli intelligence body Mossad," *Al-Ahram* said.

"Information confirmed the defendant Azzam Azzam, 35, of Arab origin, who was sent by Mossad, gave the Egyptian citizen Emad Eddin Abdel Hamid materials ... that are used in espionage."

MUBARAK

(Continued from Page 1) peace track we will not take action on our trade representation," Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr al-Thani told a news conference in Cairo.

"We have frozen any developments in the normalization of our relations with Israel," he added, although he invited Levy to Qatar for next year's economic conference. "There is a need for continued cooperation," said Jassim.

Levy promised the Israeli presence in Qatar would be moved from its current hotel base to permanent premises.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street.

ברוך דין אמת
With great sorrow we announce the untimely passing in New York City of
MAIDI KATZ
שרת נישת בת הרב ישראל נחמן הכהן כ"ג ני"ן
In the midst of life, deeply mourned by all who knew and loved her
The funeral will take place on Wednesday, November 13 (Kislev 2) at 6 p.m. or two hours after the arrival of El Al flight no. 008, starting at Sanhedria, leaving for Har Hamenuhot.
Shiva at the home of her uncle, Rabbi and Mrs Ahron Batt, 3 Rehov Brodie, Jerusalem
For information, call 02-5617005, or 09-929696.
Parents: Dr Norman and Judy Katz, St. Louis, Missouri
Brother: Avi and Rivli Katz, Teaneck, New Jersey

is different from the previous conferences, which had a political dimension and which included Israel in the preparations and the substance," he said. "This conference is an Egyptian economic conference."

Qatari officials told Levy they would not proceed with the planned opening of a trade mission in Israel unless there is progress in talks with the Palestinians.

"I met David Levy half an hour ago and told him that unless there is progress on the Palestinian

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Keynote Speaker:
Amos Oz
A State of Jews or a Jewish State

Discussants:
Prof. Yehuda Friedlander, Rector, Bar-Ilan University
Rabbi Yoel Bin-Nun

The (Hebrew language) conference will take place on Thursday, November 14, 1996, at 3 p.m., Beck Auditorium, Bar-Ilan University.

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DISCOVER AMERICA

Tichon: Arabic speeches in Knesset will be translated

ARAB MKs who address the Knesset plenum in Arabic will have their speeches translated into Hebrew, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon promised this week.

LIAT COLLINS

Both Hebrew and Arabic are the official languages, but Arabic has not been used for the past 30 years, because the Arabs themselves have neglected their rights," said MK Abdul Wahab Darawshe (Democratic Arab Party).

Arab MKs in the present Knesset have increased the number of speeches they give in Arabic, but until now the lack of translation has meant Hebrew speakers have been unable to follow what was said.

Ben-Menahem urges police to weed out pro-pot media

NEWSPAPERS that print recipes for hash brownies or instructions on how to grow marijuana are hardly providing a public service, as they claim to be. They are simply breaking the law, according to MK Eli Ben-Menahem, head of the Knesset's Anti-Drug Abuse Committee.

ESTHER HECHT

He said his paper provides a public service by dispelling myths and supplying much-needed information about the weed. Netiva Ben-Yehuda, an outspoken radio personality, estimated there are 400,000 users nationally.

leads to a rise in addiction and that the number of Dutch addicts cited by Sandak did not include those who were able to work.

Knesset bodies criticize housing situation

THREE Knesset bodies discussed housing-related issues yesterday, and none of the meetings was optimistic.

Knesset panel hears testimony on sexual harassment in IDF

THE IDF objects to being branded a hotbed of sexual harassment, but still can't say how prevalent the problem is, the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women learned yesterday.

Four workers arrested in Haifa strike protest

POLICE arrested four striking workers of the giant Haifa Chemicals plant yesterday during disturbances outside the bayside factory.

collective labor agreement. The firm wants to annul the agreement so it can institute sweeping changes, including cutting over 100 workers.

Spain: UN could OK Zaire force by tomorrow

MADRID (Reuters) - Spain was optimistic yesterday that the United Nations would authorize the deployment of a multinational force by tomorrow to aid more than a million sick and starving refugees.

350 feared dead as airliners collide over India

AROUND 350 people were feared killed yesterday when a Saudi Arabian jumbo jet and a Kazakhstani airliner collided in mid-air west of New Delhi, aviation officials said.

Officials said wreckage had been spotted in villages in Haryana State, bordering Punjab. They collided between 6:40 and 6:50 GMT (1:11 a.m. EST) on Sunday.

One aviation source described the aftermath of the collision as "like a bolt of lightning."

Disaster is among worst on record

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Yesterday's mid-air collision near New Delhi, with a feared death toll of up to 350, looks set to be among the world's five worst of its kind.

The collision involved a Saudi Arabian jumbo jet and a Kazakhstani airliner. The previous worst mid-air collision was on September 10, 1978, when a British Trident collided with a Yugoslav DC-9 over Zagreb, Croatia.

Following are the world's worst aviation disasters, ranked by number of deaths: 583 March 27, 1977 Two Boeing 747 airliners, one a KLM and the other Pan American jet, collided and burst into flames on the runway at Santa Cruz de Tenerife in the Canary Islands.

High Court: Government has 2 months to place Iraqi refugees

THE government has two more months to find states willing to accept six Iraqi refugees who came here three years ago, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday.

Major risks new crisis with EU over work week

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain headed for a new showdown with its European Union partners on Tuesday, threatening to veto reforms crucial for the bloc's expansion unless they agreed to overturn a law limiting the EU working week to 48 hours.

Spain: UN could OK Zaire force by tomorrow

MADRID (Reuters) - Spain was optimistic yesterday that the United Nations would authorize the deployment of a multinational force by tomorrow to aid more than a million sick and starving refugees.



A young boy receives medical treatment at a Goma hospital yesterday as aid workers return to the rebel-held town in eastern Zaire.

In eastern Zaire, the urgent need for intervention was underlined by a doctor's warning that an outbreak of cholera could wipe out some 250,000 refugees within days.

Spain, spearheading with France the efforts to deploy a multinational force, stepped up criticism of the US yesterday and said Washington was dragging its feet.

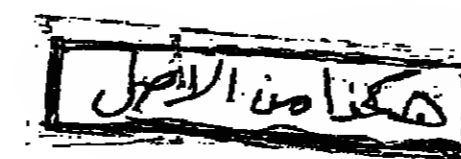
The UN Security Council on Saturday asked members to lay the groundwork for such a force, but held off authorizing it until its aims and participants were clear.

A UN doctor in Zaire said yesterday cholera had broken out at a hillside settlement of about 250,000 Rwanda Hutu refugees outside the town of Bukavu and could wipe out its entire population within days.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chernomyrdin: Military reform will hurt MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said military reform would be painful, but drastic cuts were inevitable.

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100 Canon color ink-jet printers worth NIS 2000 each will be raffled among all those purchasing Canon or MINOLTA photocopiers.
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In addition, 25 Canon video cameras will be raffled among all those purchasing Karat equipment.



Egypt using summit to elevate its own regional dominance

ANALYSIS
PINHAS INBARI

THE Cairo Economic Conference is not purely economic; it is wrapped in political considerations as well. One could even suggest that the political considerations may be more overwhelming than the parties involved are ready to admit. During the previous conference that took place in Amman, Egypt fought hard to host the next meeting in Cairo, but it is now proven that what Egypt had in mind was not to entwine the economic process from the point it arrived at in Amman, but to change its course completely.

This has nothing to do with Prime Minister Netanyahu; it is rather consistent with Egyptian policy since the first conference in Casablanca. Egypt had, during the Labor party's government, already begun to put pressure on Jordan to accept the Egyptian perspective. "Why do you hurry up normalization [of relations] with Israel?" Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa asked King Hussein, in front of his Israeli guests. The Egyptian policy therefore was formulated long ago, before the Israeli elections.

What bothers Egypt? Cairo, it is well known, was the pioneer in making true peace with Israel, and it suffered at the hands of its fellow Arabs for many years because of this brave decision. Now, the Arab world has joined in with making peace with Israel, but instead of enjoying the fruit of this, Cairo discovered - wrongly - that it opened the door of the Middle East to the Jewish state, only to be pushed aside by the new member in the club.

To recognize Israel and make peace with it is one thing; to recognize its pivotal role through its economic edge is something else. Israeli efforts to organize economic cooperation in the Middle East is understood, in Cairo, as an attempt to "conquer" the Middle East economically - after the termination of the "physical" occupation.

Therefore, the Egyptian list of economic programs contains only pure "Egyptian" programs, namely: Programs to be conducted in Egypt only, while the regional Middle East economic programs they preserve for discussion in the Arab League economic forums, from which Israel is absent, and therefore cannot challenge Egyptian hegemony.

This school of thought is directed by Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, who emphasizes "national" inter-

ests on purely economic considerations. This policy is aiming at the re-institution of Egypt as the actual political leader of the Arab states. Not only should Israel be concerned by such a policy, but many Arab states should be too - including Syria, now Egypt's main ally.

To reinforce the "national" dimension of the conference, Egypt insisted that the agreement on redeployment in Hebron should be signed prior to the opening day in Cairo. One of the reasons why the signing of a Hebron redeployment agreement did not take place was this Egyptian insistence on its regional role, and that the agreement should be achieved through its own offices. It seems now, that Egyptian attempts to pave its way through Palestinian Authority tie-ups are going to come up against opposition from other countries, in particular Jordan and Syria. Even Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Emirates do not approve of Egypt's sliding back to the Nasserite era.

As for Jordan, it is evident that the kingdom is not giving up its efforts to participate in mediating in Palestinian affairs, including the Hebron redeployment. In this case, Jordan pushed aside Egypt as mediator. As for Syria, its displeasure with Egyptian efforts to penetrate the East Bank through PA chairman Yasser Arafat, was manifested by the fact that until now Damascus ignored two of Arafat's applications, through Egypt, to visit Syria. Damascus regards the West Bank as a part of its backyard, it is ready to recognize a Jordanian role in the process as part of a "Greater Syria" theory (in which Jordan is a part as well), but not Egypt.

These political differences affect the economic conference. Egypt's rejection of regional coordination through this conference, is not only in principle, but actual and specific against Israeli-Jordanian cooperation.

Only last week, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt decided to unify their electricity systems. This replaced the Amman Economic Conference decision to unify the Israeli-Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian systems. Yet Jordan sticks to the old programs of cooperation with Israel, and this manifested itself during President Weizman's visit to Jordan last week.

Hence, it seems that the dilemma in the conference is to choose between "nationalism" or "economy," and the two do not meet in the Middle East.

Political activity likely to supersede Cairo's economic program

COMMENT
JAY BUSHINSKY

LUCRATIVE business deals, like happy marriages, are made in heaven. Gala economic conferences, replete with top-drawer officials, overflowing media presence, and elegant decor may generate contacts and prospects, but they do not necessarily close deals.

The multi-national event that opened in Cairo with the participation of all the states of the Middle East (except Iraq, Iran and Syria) as well as the U.S., Canada, the European Union and others, is no exception.

On the other hand, it will be the backdrop for significant "one-on-ones," such as the projected rendezvous between outgoing Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. If indeed Arafat's tactical reservations have been holding up the redeployment (a diplomatic euphemism for withdrawal) of Israel's troops from Hebron - a move eagerly desired by the Clinton administration - the Christopher-Arafat meeting may break the logjam.

Foreign Minister David Levy, who is heading a large Israeli delegation comprised of industrialists and other economic leaders, will also be able to engage in intensive talks with his American and Arab counterparts. His staff is convinced that the Cairo Economic Conference is an important diplomatic event as well as an opportu-

nity to expand Israel's relatively minuscule trade with the Arab world. "Regional cooperation contributes to economic stability," one of Levy's aides said. "Trade relations cannot be divorced from political activity." He described Israel's participation in the Egyptian-sponsored business extravaganza as a "step towards normalization," but did not anticipate a "dramatic breakthrough."

One of the underlying problems is Egypt's rather incomprehensible hang-up over Israel's alleged desire to dominate the Middle East economically, if not militarily too. Its foreign minister, Amr Moussa, alluded to this when he noted that Israel "will not be the conference's central axis, but merely one of the many states taking part in the conference." His colleagues contend that Israel tried to win the upper hand at the two previous Arab-sponsored economic conclaves, in Casablanca and Amman - charges that were not tempered by the fact that they relate to a period when Israel's previous Labor-Meretz party coalition determined government policy and won international acclaim for its peace policy.

Despite the nostalgia that may be professed in some Arab and European quarters for Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu's immediate predecessors, there are signs that their pet projects are not regarded as regional musts. For example, the regional bank touted

by Shimon Peres was reportedly sidelined by Moussa, who was quoted in Cairo as saying: "Its establishment will be postponed for a while, but the idea has not been dropped." Peres had suggested that Cairo serve as the bank's headquarters.

"Foreign investors are motivated by profits that be reaped without undue risk," said Professor Elyahu Kanovsky of Bar-Ilan University,

like mixing apples and oranges," he said, implying that the differences are inherent and incomparable.

"What came out of Casablanca and Amman?" he asked rhetorically. "Nothing," Kanovsky recalled that Israel made impressive economic progress before the Madrid Conference on Middle East Peace and the subsequent Oslo Accords, attributing this to the former national unity government, which, in 1985, introduced measures which boosted productivity and efficiency while capitalizing wisely on the influx of immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

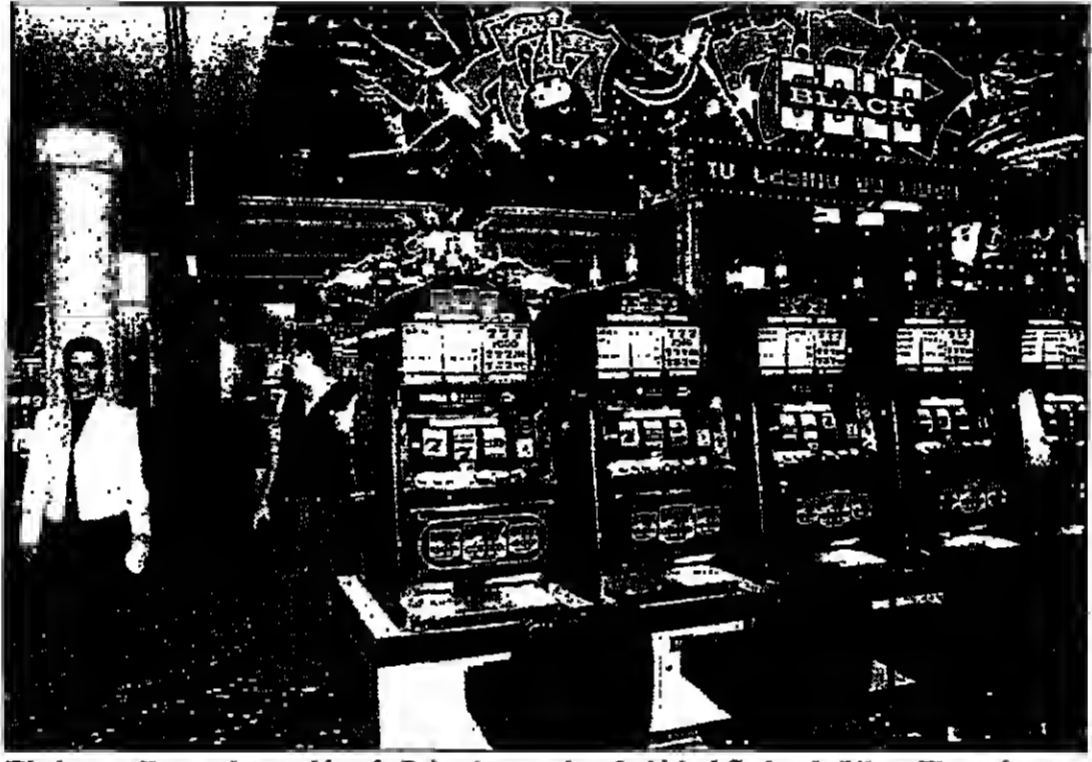
In contrast, Egypt has barely sustained a per-capita growth rate of 2.1 per cent - this despite \$25 billion in foreign aid in cover its national debt, another \$25b. in low-interest loans and \$12b. in donations from the international community. The Palestinian National Authority, another would-be beneficiary of the kind of investments that accrue from the Cairo Economic Conference, also "is in a terrible mess," Kanovsky added.

He blamed Arafat personally for this, noting that the Palestinian leader has been "doing everything wrong," while trying to control economic development through three conflicting administrative units.

The Egyptians may be looking at themselves in the mirror when they inveigh against Israel's purported yen for economic hegemony. Kanovsky cited the abortive Arab economic union proposed by the



who also ranks as a senior researcher at its Begin-Sadat Center of Strategic Studies. The Canadian-born scholar's doubts about the Cairo Economic Conference's likelihood to work regional miracles stem largely from the disparity between the rates of economic growth in Israel and the neighboring Arab states. Attempts to work out a viable economic match "is



Workers walk past slot machines in Beirut's recently refurbished Casino du Liban. The casino was the leading gambling establishment in the Middle East before the 1975-90 civil war. (Reuters)

Iran wants better ties with Gulf Arabs

IRAN wants to improve its relations with its Arab neighbors to ensure real and lasting peace in the oil-rich Gulf region, Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said on Monday.

"We want our brotherly neighbors in the Gulf to boost friendship, cooperation and neighborly relations... cooperation between us... is alone capable of establishing a real and permanent peace," Velayati said.

He made his comments in an interview with the London-based Arabic-language *Asharq al-Awsat* and in answer to a question on what Iran wanted from a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit to be held in Qatar on December 7.

Velayati said he was due to hold talks today in Teheran with Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef bin Alawi bin Abdullahi as an envoy from the

GCC - which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

"We are waiting to listen to the Omani minister and what he has for us from our Gulf brothers," he added. Relations between Shi'ite Iran and its Sunni Arab neighbors are often tense. Earlier this year, the GCC countries accused Iran of interfering in their internal affairs and expressed worries over its armament program. Iran denied the charges.

One thorny issue in Iran's relations with the GCC is a territorial dispute with the UAE over three Gulf islands.

The UAE has urged Iran to agree to take the row to the International Court of Justice. Iran says its sovereignty over the islands is not negotiable but has called for bilateral talks with the UAE to clear up any "misunderstandings." (Reuters)

The people with no rights: Syria's oppressed Kurds

ON the face of it, Syria has become a leading supporter of the Kurds, the largest non-Arab minority in the Middle East. President Hafez Assad has provided the Turkish Kurdish underground, the PKK, with offices in Damascus and bases in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, despite strong protests from Ankara.

But Syria also has its own Kurdish minority. And, the irony, according to a new report by a human rights group, is that the Assad regime treats these Kurds as badly as, if not worse than, Turkey or any Arab regime treats its own Kurdish populations.

In short, the hundreds of thousands of Kurds in Syria simply have no rights. They are stateless, without passports and identity cards and cannot even go to school.

"They have been issued special red identity cards by the Ministry of Interior," says a recent report by the New York-based Human Rights Watch/Middle East, "and, pursuant to discriminatory state policy, are denied

many rights which other Syrians enjoy, such as the right to vote, the right to own property, and the right to have marriages legally recognized."

The Syrian government does not provide figures for the number of Kurds in the country. But it says that those Kurds classified as foreigners - meaning they have no rights - number 67,465 as of October 31, 1995. But Kurdish sources say the actual number is at least 200,000.

Kurds comprise significant minorities in several Middle Eastern countries. The largest Kurdish community is in Turkey, comprising 10-15 million. Between six and eight million Kurds live in Iran and another four million in Iraq.

Several hundred thousand Kurds live in Azerbaijan and Armenia. In Syria, however, the children of stateless Kurds, even though born in Syria, are still denied citizenship.

The overwhelming majority of them were stripped of their citizenship in a controversial 1962 census. That census

was said to have stripped 20 percent of the entire Syrian Kurdish population of their citizenship.

The 1962 census, diplomats say, was part of a plan to Arabize the Kurdish northeast of Syria along the border with Turkey, an area rich in cotton and oil. As the Kurds told Human Rights Watch, "The government wanted to eliminate 150,000 Kurds and bring in Arab settlers. It wanted to force the Kurds to leave the governorate, which was 70-80 percent Kurds. Beginning in 1973, they moved Arab settlers to the border area with Turkey."

Kurdish land was expropriated and Syrian Arabs were settled in model villages that each contained 150-200 homes. Under terms that appear far more generous than those Israel gives Jews in the territories, Damascus built the Arab settlers homes for free and

gave them weapons, seeds and fertilizer, Kurdish sources say.

Assad was said to have halted the Arab settlement campaign in 1976. But, says Fouad Ali Kub of the Democratic Unity Party in Syria, the status quo remains unchanged.

Today, another group of stateless Syrian-born Kurds are in a worse situation. They are not even issued identity cards and are not listed in population registers.

They are called *maktumeen* in Arabic, which means unregistered or not appearing in the records. Children inherit this status from their parents.

Human Rights Watch, citing the high birthrate among the Kurds, says that in villages in the northeastern governorate of Hasakeh, the number of *maktumeen* will grow rapidly.

The Syrian government told the

human rights group that the number of so-called foreigners in the Hasakeh governorate alone was 75,000 in 1995. Kurds say that having the status of a foreigner makes daily living a hardship.

They cannot own property or businesses, be admitted to public hospitals or receive food subsidies. They cannot be employed at government agencies or state-owned enterprises, practice as doctors or engineers, or vote or run for public office.

The Syrian government acknowledges that these Kurdish men cannot legally marry Syrian citizens. *Maktumeen* who try to get permission for their children to go to school usually find themselves receiving a visit from the office of political security.

One Syrian-born Kurdish foreigner from Qamishieli recalls being questioned several times about his political affiliation. He was then asked to be an informer.

"The last time, they beat me up in the presence of a senior officer," he says.

"This was on Thursday. They beat me up and told me to come back on Saturday. I did not go back. I refused to work with them. But this is how they recruit informers. This is increasing here."

Human Rights Watch says that peaceful Kurdish protests at their plight were broken up by security police and their organizers subjected to torture.

The human rights group says its main aim in presenting the report is to garner world attention.

The State Department, in its 1996 annual report, devoted only two sentences to this subject.

Human Rights Watch calls on the Clinton administration to "discontinue the policy of public silence concerning the human rights record of the Assad government and direct appropriate US State Department officials to express publicly the US government's concern about continuing human rights abuses in Syria, including the rights of the Kurdish ethnic minority."

Family empires dominate UAE business

MICHAEL GEORGY

WHEN the al-Futtaim brothers set up a small shop on Dubai's creek in the 1930s, their dreams soared as far as the wooden dhows that plied the oceans with pearls, textiles and timber.

Decades later, within sight of the creek, stands City Center, one of the Middle East's largest shopping malls, with everything from modern European furniture to a supermarket so huge that staff dash about on roller skates.

Majid, a second generation al-Futtaim, built the multi-million dollar complex last year with his own money. It now attracts shoppers throughout the oil-rich Gulf.

He and his brother Abdullah control the Al-Futtaim Group, a diversified business with some 30 ventures ranging from a tower scaffolding firm, to electronics, computer software products, construction and cars. They employ more than 4,500 people from some 20 countries.

The group provides a glimpse into the powerful family-owned enterprises that have evolved from small trading houses into multi-million dollar conglomerates that dominate the economy of the United Arab Emirates. Others include Al Ghurair Group,

investment vehicle at home. When Al-Khazna Insurance was launched recently, investors subscribed more than seven times for the 2.09 million shares on offer.

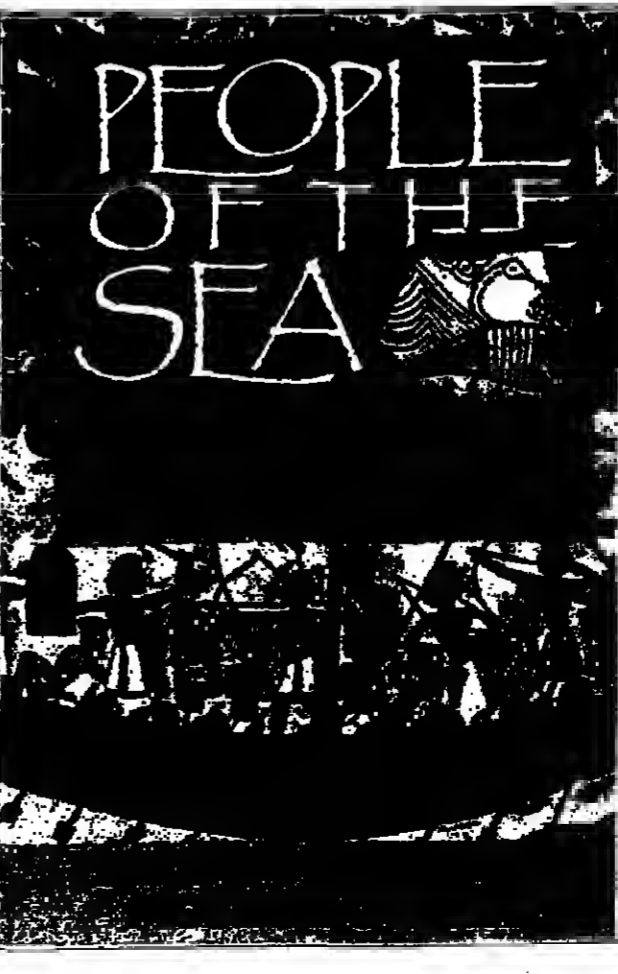
The latest primary issue on the informal stock exchange, which exceeded two billion dirhams (\$544 million) in the last year, was heavily oversubscribed, underscoring high liquidity.

The unofficial stock market, limited to trading over the telephone, is expected to be formalized by 1998 but bankers say it will not grow without opening its doors to foreign money.

It would also flourish and absorb abundant private liquidity if family enterprises floated their shares. But bankers and economists say that is unlikely.

The Al-Futtaim Group, one of the Gulf's biggest family enterprises, has re-invested some of its earnings in the UAE economy. But it has also put its money to work abroad. It has invested in four assembly plants in Pakistan that make Fiat tractors and has engaged in other deals.

But many wonder whether foreign investors will ever be able to grab a stake in the vast family enterprises. (Reuters)



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A last resort

THE placement of the former spokesman of the outlawed Kach movement, Noam Federman, under administrative detention for two months smacks of the famous order given at the end of the film Casablanca: "Round up the usual suspects."

In principle, administrative detention is a legitimate tool in the fight against terror and the prevention of violence generally. Most Western democracies have such laws on the books and they are used from time to time.

But administrative detention is as close as democracies come to employing tools that are the hallmark of dictatorships. No charges are filed and the evidence against the detainee, if any, is neither revealed to the detainee or the defense counsel.

Because detention is a preventative measure and not necessarily linked to any actual crime, the danger is particularly great that it be used in an arbitrary manner.

Since it is such an extreme and anti-democratic measure, democracies generally do not employ detentions except in time of war or other extreme threats to society.

Detention is supposed to be a measure of last resort, to be employed only if less drastic measures are insufficient. In the case of Noam Federman, for example, it is not clear why house arrest, or some other form of restriction of movement would not have sufficed.

Further, the resort to detention would seem to imply that the justice system had exhausted all of the conventional criminal prosecution tools at its disposal. In fact, there seems to be little change in the lax attitude taken toward crimes by Israelis in the territories against Palestinians and their property.

This combination raises suspicions that detentions, if not a first resort, are out a last resort either. While the handful of detentions employed against settlers has attracted considerable attention in Israel, it is out as well known that about 280 Palestinians are currently being held in administrative detention.

Indeed, when detentions are necessary to save lives, they must be used. The danger is that the use of detention becomes routine - used not because it is necessary, but because it is convenient.

There is no shortage of models, studies, and recommendations for ways to reduce the likelihood that the power to detain without trial will be abused. The incoming justice minister should turn his attention to employing some of them. Security and democracy need not be at odds with each other.



Birthday gift to a king

MOSHE ZAK

ON November 13 every year for more than three decades Israel's prime minister has sent a birthday telegram to King Hussein of Jordan.

Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir, Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Rabin - all observed the ritual faithfully, even during periods of tension. All the more, then, when there is peace, and today as our royal neighbor turns 61 he will be receiving the customary greetings from Israel.

Hussein has traditionally responded by sending Israeli leaders greetings on their birthdays. And he has added his own touch: farewell messages when they retire from office.

In the matter of farewell notes Israel has had no chance to reciprocate. While we have gone through five presidents and seven prime ministers since Hussein ascended his throne the king has remained firmly seated, surprising the world with the stability of his rule.

Several attempts on his life have failed, as have efforts to foment revolution in his kingdom. Hussein foiled these attempts with courage and good sense; and when he needed our help he didn't hesitate but obtained it with great sophistication, without appearing to compromise Arab solidarity.

When writing to Israeli leaders Hussein talks about "peace between the sons of Abraham." But it is not this that motivates him to communicate with us.

Hussein is an Arab patriot who understands that Arab interests forbid flirtation with war.

Jordan needs stability and tranquility, and since his bitter adventure in the Six Day War Hussein has taken care not to get involved in another conflict.

He took great pains to keep his kingdom out of the Yom Kippur War. Even though Arab solidarity required his sending a regiment to

Israel should set Hussein's mind at ease regarding his special status in Jerusalem's holy Islamic sites

the Golan he kept the Jordan bridges open and continued exchanging messages with Golda Meir to prevent hostilities breaking out.

Before the Gulf War too the king got prime minister Shamir to promise that Israel would not infringe Jordan's airspace in the event of war, armed with this assurance he obtained a corresponding one from Iraq that its planes would not overfly Jordan.

HUSSEIN has demonstrated great initiative in eliciting Israeli help in guarding Jordan's sovereignty and stopping his country being swallowed up by other Arab powers that threatened the Hashemite dynasty.

Just before signing the peace treaty with Israel the king went even further: He sought our assistance beyond his own borders, in an area under Israeli sovereignty -

Jerusalem.

Hussein's grandfather King Abdullah reached strategic understanding with Israel 47 years ago on a joint blocking of the UN resolution to make Jerusalem an international city (something that would have destroyed the Hashemite kingdom's special, preferential status vis-a-vis Jerusalem's holy Islamic sites).

Years later his grandson requested that Jordan's status in this matter be preserved via a commitment from Israel. For Hussein this commitment constituted the jewel in the crown of his peace treaty with Israel.

Then, two years after the ratification of the treaty, Hussein began a search for that jewel, which had got lost somewhere in Solomon's Stables. Suddenly the king realized that Israel had been negligent over its undertaking to maintain Jordan's status in the holy places.

Instead of talking to Jordanian representatives in Jerusalem about converting the stables into a mosque the previous government applied to the Palestinian Authority's representatives; and the current government failed to appreciate this grave infringement of its treaty with Jordan.

So Hussein turned to the PA asking the authority to assure his status in the holy places. This was a signal to Israel that it should urgently reassess its position in Jerusalem's Old City, with an eye to Jordan's interests there.

Along with his birthday greetings to the king the prime minister should transmit this clear and unambiguous message: Israel is determined to uphold the "Jerusalem clause," that pillar of the peace treaty, by affirming Israeli rule in all parts of Jerusalem - thus ensuring Jordan's historic status, as promised.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

The 'Lesset'

MARK L. LEVINSON

MARK Ophir Pines has formally proposed a second house for the Israeli legislature.

After the second TV channel and the second cellular-phone company I suppose we should have seen it coming. There's no room any more for just one of anything.

Pines is thinking of an upper chamber, to be populated by ex-ministers and elder MKs.

His proposal, like the Norwegian Law that takes ministers out of the Knesset, would give lots of less senior politicians room for advancement. But it doesn't have the disadvantage of making the old folks into ministers. Pines says it has the advantage of cultivating elder statesmen.

But if we are to have a second house, I think it shouldn't be for the MKs who already know what they're doing.

I think what we need more is a practice Knesset for the inexperienced. Some of today's Knesset newbies could have used some warming-up time in a Lesser Knesset.

Call it Lesset for short, which - appropriately enough - means "jaw" in Hebrew.

Our Lesset could try out not just individual MKs, but entire legislative systems. For example, some people say MKs should be elected by district; but no one really knows what districting would lead to.

Not everyone who supported the law creating the directly-elected prime minister expected the results it produced. So rather than risking another surprise why not try districting in Lesset elections before considering it for the Knesset?

For the sake of wide representation seats in the Lesset could be owned in rotation, like time on TV's Channel 2.

A practice Knesset for the inexperienced

Of course we wouldn't want time always to go to the highest bidder, like broadcast-days on the second channel. That would make the Lesset too much like the Knesset. But we could sell a quota of seats, for example, to the overseas philanthropists who so enjoy behaving as if they were running a piece of the country.

And unlike Ophir Pines, who thinks that serving three terms in the Knesset should guarantee you a seat in the other house, I think three unsuccessful runs for Knesset should guarantee you a seat. Anyone with that kind of dedication in the face of defeat deserves a chance to prove himself.

ANOTHER group I'd like to see tested out in the Lesset is women. I don't mean to pick on novelist Barbara Sofer, but I need to quote someone: "She ootes that none of the main players in the current peace process are women, and that women could contribute to it greatly," says The Jerusalem Post.

We're always hearing women claiming they could govern better than men. Since they won't vote more than a handful of their own sex into the Knesset, I say: Put them in the Lesset for a while.

I have my own suspicions, which are more like what Lenny Bruce said: "Women are more like men than men are."

Let's have them all in the Lesset: Women in Black, Women in Green, chronic election-losers, Diaspora fatcats, local ward healers.

Also, with the Knesset to save former generals from poverty, we should have the Lesset for former beauty queens, former soccer stars, and people who can't sell their Herbalife consignments.

Just one more thing: Knesset elections in the leap years, Lesset elections in the alternate even-numbered years; and in the odd-numbered years we get to vote on which of the two houses makes the laws.

The writer is a Herzliya-based freelancer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir - Marilyn Henry's report of October 22 about the annual dinner of the Zionist Organization of America in New York City misrepresented the five-hour event.

We were especially pleased and honored to have as a featured speaker at the dinner Israel's ambassador to the US, Dr. Eliahu Ben-Ellisar. The ZOA was the first major American Jewish organization he chose to address since taking up his new position in the US. In his remarks, Ambassador Ben-Ellisar said: "I have known the ZOA for many, many years, and know very well how determined you are, how

ZOA DINNER

decisive you are, and today you are needed more than ever. You are fighting the right fight, for the right cause, and I know you will outperform as others do sometimes, and I know we can have full trust in you."

The ambassador also strongly criticized the recent anti-Israel and anti-American incitement by Yasser Arafat and other senior PLO officials.

Both Congressman Benjamin Gilman and Ambassador Ben-Ellisar received enthusiastic and prolonged standing ovations at the conclusion of their speeches.

It is sad and disappointing that Ms. Henry took one trivial episode, which occurred after the dinner was over and after nearly all of the guests had left, and false-

ly implied that it was typical of the entire five-hour affair. There was no connection whatsoever between the ZOA dinner and the fact that in the lobby after the dinner, one or two individuals approached the ambassador and loudly expressed their concerns about the risks of a PLO takeover of most of Hebron. We strongly repudiate any rude behavior by anyone towards the ambassador or any other public official. Political disagreements should always be aired in a civil and responsible manner.

MICHAEL ORBACH, Chairman of the Board
MICHAEL GOLDBLATT, National Vice President, Zionist Organization of America

New York.

LEAH RABIN'S ROLE

occasions and written extensively. She is a powerful voice for racial equality and justice. Although she surely has suffered intense personal pain and, like Leah Rabin, was never at leisure to mourn, she has always spoken in terms of reconciliation and mutual tolerance. Never has she pointed an accusing figure at those she held responsible for her husband's death. Thrust unexpectedly into a public role she has emerged as someone who can make a difference precisely because she was able to surmount her personal tragedy.

Unlike Jacqueline Kennedy, Leah Rabin is not opting to walk away from a public role. Like Coretta King, she seems rather to feel a mission to carry forward her late husband's work. If that is indeed her goal, it is a noble though difficult one. The price she must pay is the price of all public persons. They cannot allow themselves to say whatever they like whenever they feel moved. The public image must be maintained and the private person can be indulged only at special times and never completely.

Because of the life she shared with Yitzhak Rabin, there is much that Leah Rabin can offer that would further the cause of peace in our region. It must be remembered however, that peace will not come to a nation whose soul is divided. Those who would bring us peace must work to heal our divisions and help us all to find

common ground. It is unacceptable, for example, to reject the presence of the president of Israel and the prime minister at ceremonies honoring the memory of the country's fallen leader. Everyone should be encouraged to join in remembering the good that was in Yitzhak Rabin. To do otherwise is to make of Rabin's memory a source of the very hatred between Israelis that was the root of the tragedy to begin with. Ultimately such behavior is also counterproductive and it will sooner or later result in neutralizing Leah Rabin's effectiveness as a public spokeswoman.

If being at all times statesman-like and constructive in a public role is too much of a burden for the newly widowed Leah Rabin to assume, that is understandable and deserves sympathy, as Greer Fay Cashman suggests. In return, however, Leah Rabin must accept the constraints of good citizenship and keep her mourning private. If she hears anger against key members of the government, she must nonetheless respect their office and resist the temptation to use her fame to promote a partisan view at a time when the oodum unfortunately appears to be at war with itself.

Two roles are available to Leah Rabin. Both are honorable. Both have been successfully pursued. Like most things in life, however, one cannot have it all. A choice is necessary.

ARNOLD I. KISCH, MD
Jerusalem.

Arafat: Partner or predator?

MISHA LOUVISH

A few weeks ago the prime minister called Yasser Arafat "a friend and a partner" and backed it up with a very cordial public handshake.

Some of his coalition colleagues still insist that Arafat is a murderous terrorist determined to destroy the State of Israel. In a TV interview writer Moshe Shamir went even further, denouncing Arafat as an Arab Hitler who wants to kill Jews just because they are Jews.

Which is right? We can only understand Arafat's attitude against the background of the 100-year Jewish-Arab conflict in the Holy Land.

If it is based on pathological hatred and an Arab version of implacable Hitlerite antisemitism, Shamir may be right. If it is founded on a fundamentalist Muslim refusal to tolerate any non-Muslim state in the Middle East, Rafaeel Eitan, Benny Begin et al may be right.

If we look at the history of the conflict, however, we see that it is a realistic struggle between two nations over the possession and control of a territory each claim.

The clash erupted after the collapse of the Turkish empire in World War I, when most of the Arabs under its rule eventually gained independence and only those of Palestine had to face the prospect of never being independent.

There was no doubt about the reason for this discrimination: The Balfour Declaration and the League of Nations Mandate had determined that the Jewish national home was to be established in Palestine. "To whom does Palestine belong?" was the question, to which the standard Zionist answer was: "To the Jewish people and the Arabs living in the country."

The Zionist movement recognized the civic rights of Palestinian Arabs as individuals, but believed that Arab national rights were satisfied elsewhere and that the national claims of the Arabs of Palestine were counterbalanced by the rights and needs of the Jewish people, including those who still lived in the Diaspora but were to be considered as potential citizens of the Jewish national home.

Chaim Weizmann believed that

the conflict was not between right and wrong, but between two rights; and that the acute Jewish need for a national home outweighed the validity of the Arabs' rights.

The Zionists therefore objected to the establishment of democratic institutions in Palestine until enough Jews had settled in the country to constitute a majority. Naturally, the Arabs refused to

accept these arguments. Their basic reason was not religious prejudice or irrational hatred, but national interest.

It was true that the representative body of the Palestinian Arabs was called the Higher Arab Committee; only much later, after the Palestinian Jews had decided to call themselves Israelis, did the Arabs of the country pick up the name and call themselves "the Palestinian people."

But the name didn't matter. Whether they regarded themselves as part of Syria or as a distinctive nation in the Arab world, and whether their ancestors had lived there for generations or arrived recently in search of work they wanted to be left alone to rule themselves in their own country.

They did not recognize the divine promise to Abraham (which did not then play a very important part in Zionist ideology) and resented the arrival of the Jews even if they did introduce modernization, employment and material progress.

Describing his talk with a prominent Palestinian Arab leader, Musa Alami, in 1933, David Ben-Gurion wrote:

"The prevailing assumption in the Zionist movement then was that we were bringing a blessing to the Arabs of the country, and that they therefore had no reason to

oppose us. In the first talk I had with Musa Alami... this assumption was shattered. [He] told me that he would prefer the land to remain poor and desolate even for another 100 years until the Arabs were capable of... making it flower, and I felt that as a patriotic Arab he had every right to this view."

In 1936, the Zionist movement accepted, faute de mieux, the principle of compromise by partition, and in 1948 the Jewish state was established in part of Palestine.

For four decades the Palestinians - from 1964 under Arafat's leadership - conducted a brutal terrorist war against Israeli men, women, and children. Only in 1988, 20 years after the 1967 war (in which Israel, in self-defense against Arab aggression, occupied the Gaza Strip and the West Bank) did Arafat recognize Israel's right to exist and, in effect, accept the partition principle.

Five more years had to pass before the Rabin government started the Oslo process that may, in time, lead to agreement between the two nations on a permanent settlement of the conflict.

In this process Arafat is certainly a partner - right now the only partner there is. Perhaps in time, despite past intransigence and crimes, he may become a friend.

The writer comments on public affairs from a Labor viewpoint.

POSTSCRIPTS

PRINCESS DIANA had to dip into her £17 million divorce settlement to pay in cash for two lipstick tubes who her credit card was rejected at her favorite London store.

Diana looked furious as her store card was turned down twice for the £24 payment.

Her spokesman said the card had expired and blamed the shop-up-market Harvey Nichols, for being too slow to send her a new one.

THERE ARE so many candidates for Stupidest Thief of the Year. This woman will have to be a foot-runner.

A Stratford, Ontario, woman

suspected of stealing wallets from supermarket shopping carts inadvertently identified herself by dumping four wallets into a produce bin while fleeing a store.

One of the wallets was hers, with a photo ID recognized by one of the shoppers whose wallet was stolen.

Later the woman phoned police to report she had lost her wallet.

"HOW OLD are you, Savita?" five-year-old Shir asked her grandmother. When she heard the answer, the child's eyes popped in astonishment, and she asked: "Did you start from one?"
Dvora Weissman

Key Representative Rates table with columns for currency and rate.

NYSE STOCK MARKET table with columns for index and change.

New York market indexes table with columns for index and change.

NYSE stocks table with columns for stock name and change.

Other stock market indexes table with columns for index and change.

Israeli stocks in US table with columns for stock name and change.

NYSE / AMEX / NASDAQ / OTC table with columns for stock name and change.

Libor rates table with columns for rate and change.

Dollar crossrates (US) table with columns for rate and change.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. table.

US commodities table with columns for commodity and change.

London commodities table with columns for commodity and change.

Spot market metals (US) table with columns for metal and change.

New York metal futures table with columns for metal and change.

London metal futures table with columns for metal and change.

Currency cross rates table with columns for currency and rate.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Main Tel Aviv Stock Market table with columns for stock name, price, change, and volume.

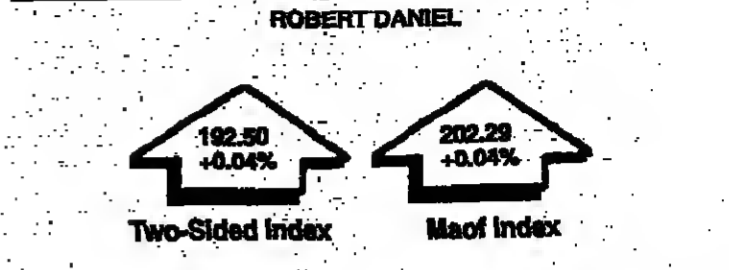
ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices with columns for country, stock name, price, and change.

Little change as investors await CPI

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



SHARES were little changed yesterday as investors, waiting for the release of October's Consumer Price Index on Friday, looked for clues over whether the central bank will reduce interest rates.

Eurobourses climb, dollar recovers vs. mark

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - European bourses climbed sharply yesterday, with some hitting new peaks, despite an unsteady opening on Wall Street after a record-breaking run.

On currency markets, the dollar recovered from two-month lows against the mark on supportive remarks by Bundesbank council members.

Frankfurt and Amsterdam stocks broke records and Paris shares surged to a new high for the year as the stronger dollar was seen as offering improved potential for European exporters.

European investors went on a buying spree, snuffing off yesterday's early losses on Wall Street which saw its fourth consecutive record close on Monday.

Frankfurt surged to a record intraday high on the IBIS DAX index in computerized transactions as the dollar strengthened.

The 30-share IBIS DAX jumped to an all-time trading peak of 2,765.61 points before slipping back slightly towards the close.

The index closed 0.49 points higher at 597.59. It reached to 599.69 in the opening hours of the session, buoyed by another record high closing overnight on Wall Street.

French stocks recovered their composure after slipping in early trade to end at 2229.13 points, a gain of 1.09 percent and the highest close of the year.

Bundesbank directorate member Edgar Meister said the current exchange rate was "not appropriate." The "normal" rate, which heartened French investors as dollar strength could help US appetite for foreign assets.

Table of currency cross rates with columns for currency and rate.

Handwritten signature in Hebrew: יעקב גולן

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, November 13, 1996

3 Israeli firms among US: Gaza industrial park to operate in two months

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THREE local firms - Bank Leumi, Evergreen Capital Markets, and Shirat Enterprises - have invested in Easdaq, the European stock market for growth companies, Easdaq CEO Jacques Putzeys said yesterday.

Easdaq, which is expected to start operating at the end of the month, has 93 shareholders, primarily from Europe and the US, including leading banks, financial companies, and Nasdaq.

"All of the shareholders have a business plan. They want to be traders, investment bankers, or advisers," Putzeys said. He added that many Israeli firms have shown interest in Easdaq since its creation in May 1995.

Shareholders have invested \$12 million in the market so far.

Shirat President Eliezer Manor said it will be easier for a local firm to go public on Easdaq than on Nasdaq, since the US market is very demanding and is primarily interested in companies with a high valuation. More than 100 Israeli firms are traded on Nasdaq, which has recently become a very popular market for local companies to raise capital due to the local capital market slump.

Manor added that Easdaq has the advantage of being closer than Nasdaq. "You have to be on the road in the US for a successful initial public offering."

Easdaq was founded by the European Venture Capital Association to combat the recent small growth of the European market compared with the flourish-

ing US venture capital market. According to Putzeys, Easdaq is an independent, integrated market that will focus on growth companies, will be accessible throughout Europe, and will offer a dual trading facility with Nasdaq. He said the exchange does not intend to compete with its American counterpart.

"Only 80 European companies are traded on Nasdaq. We want to achieve double-listing of securities to have a 16-hour market," Putzeys said.

The exchange has completed its initial stage and will start with quotations of potential companies on November 25. By the end of next year, Putzeys estimates 50 firms will be traded, including some dual listings with Nasdaq. About seven companies have already applied for admission.

The key admission requirements to Easdaq are similar to those of Nasdaq: total assets of at least ECU 3.5m. (NIS 14.5m.), capital and reserves of at least ECU 2m., one sponsor, and two market makers. In addition, firms must be willing to provide detailed information regularly to investors.

Easdaq's quotation system has been designed to operate alongside the International Securities Market Association's (ISMA) existing trade confirmation system Trax, a real-time, cross-border trade-confirmation system linking 290 customers in 15 countries. The settlement of Easdaq transactions will be carried out by InterSettle, a Swiss-based clearing organization specializing in equities.

THE first Palestinian industrial park is to begin operating at the Karni junction within two months, US Undersecretary of Trade Stuart Eisenstadt yesterday told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The park is one of nine planned for the autonomous areas that will be financed by western countries.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon told Eisenstadt on Monday that Israel would provide water and electricity for the parks, including those located on the Palestinian side of the Green Line.

Prime Minister Binyamin

DAVID HARRIS
CAIRO

Netanyahu prefers that the Karni park straddle the border between Israel and Gaza.

"We believe that real progress is being made by [our team in Tel Aviv] working with the Palestinians and the Israeli government," Eisenstadt said.

Meanwhile, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said Israel is prepared to contribute more than the \$14 million initially earmarked for the park, even if it

does not straddle the border.

Until now, senior ministry sources have said the government would not provide assistance if the entire park were located beyond the Green Line.

"We on the Israeli side are organizing to do everything we can in Karni, but we still have to look at the important issues of security and legislation," Sharansky said.

He added that Israel may help fund a rail link to the area. "We want them to have what they require, and we don't want to impose our will on them," he said.

Soaring Deutsche Telekom share demand worries banks

BONN (Reuters) - Nearly 1.5 million German private investors have placed firm orders to buy at least 100 shares in Deutsche Telekom when the German phone giant goes public next week, the firm said yesterday.

The enormous demand will guarantee that the \$12 billion issue is oversubscribed several times but has managers of Europe's largest-ever share offering getting braced for a wave of investor discontent as the shares will be in short supply.

Around 3.1m. Germans signed up with the company's share information center (AIF) to take advantage of discounted share prices and loyalty bonuses for holding shares three years.

Orders for shares can be placed until tomorrow. The

company will float up to 690m. shares. Trade begins in Germany and New York on November 18 and a day later in Tokyo. The shares are expected to cost around 30 marks. Around 70% of shares will be placed in Germany and divided up between individual and institutional investors.

Because of the heavy demand, individuals who placed large orders for hundreds of shares could end up receiving only a fraction of their total orders, which could leave many of them disappointed.

Anticipating complaints from angry first-time investors, lead underwriter, Deutsche Bank AG, has set up a hot line to try to ease the potential problem by offering advice.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Panel says National Oil Company sale process can begin: The Knesset Finance Committee gave a green light yesterday for the state to start the process of selling National Oil Company. According to the government's proposal, the company will be sold to a private investor, who will have to promise to continue operating it as an active business. *Evelyn Gordon*

Importers have good debt record - survey: Local importers are considered among the most trustworthy in the world, according to a survey on bad debts recently conducted by Business Data Israel (BDI).

BDI said the rate of bad debts caused by local importers is lower than that in the US, in Japan, and in most European countries. The survey is based on information received from foreign insurance firms. In the first ten months of the year, bad debts reached about \$4m. here, less than 0.2 percent of all local insured transactions. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

Zedillo travels to Argentina for trade talks: Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo yesterday started a three-day visit to Argentina aimed at boosting bilateral political ties and pushing forward free trade talks with Mercosur, South America's main trade bloc.

"We are re-starting the Mexico-Mercosur negotiations," Mexico's Trade Undersecretary Jaime Zabudovsky told Reuters. Mercosur is a customs union including South American giants Brazil and Argentina, plus neighboring Uruguay and Paraguay.

Zedillo and his Argentine counterpart Carlos Menem plan to sign an agreement for the mutual protection of investments. *Reuters*

GM trades in historic headquarters: General Motors Corp., trading in 76 years of history for the promise of a more efficient future, moved its top executives out of its landmark headquarters building to its new home in Detroit's Renaissance Center earlier this week.

About 70 people, led by GM Chairman Jack Smith, and Vice Chairman Harry Pearce, became the first GM employees to move into the downtown glass-towered complex on the Detroit River, which will be called the General Motors Global Headquarters at The Renaissance Center.

GM bought the Renaissance Center, built in the 1970s with backing by the late Ford Motor Co. Chairman Henry Ford II, for about \$72 million in May. *Reuters*

Elbit's net income climbs 7.8%

COMPANY RESULTS
JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

ELBIT Ltd. announced yesterday a 7.8 percent increase in third-quarter net income to \$3.6 million, from \$3.3m. in the same period one year ago.

The Haifa-based conglomerate, which has received shareholder approval to split into three publicly-traded companies focusing on the defense, medical imaging, and commercial fields, did not report revenue or per-share earnings for the quarter. The company said it will release separate division reports at the end of the month.

Elbit (Nasdaq: ELBITF) designs, develops, and manufactures a range of products, including textile-inspection equipment, televisions, and advanced systems for the defense-contracting and medical industries.

announced a 14% increase in third-quarter net income to \$25.6m. compared with \$22.5m. in the same period last year.

Revenues increased by 36% to \$151.2m., up from \$111.4m. in the comparable period in 1995.

Based in Petah Tikva, the firm (Nasdaq: ECI) makes telecommunications equipment designed to provide better transmission in domestic and international systems.

ORBOTECH Ltd.'s (Nasdaq: ORBKF) third-quarter net income rose 41% to \$4.6m., from \$3.3m. in the same period last year.

Revenue for the Yavne-based manufacturer of automated optical inspection systems for the printed circuit board industry was up 5.8% to \$35.3m., from \$33.3m.

ECI TELECOM Ltd.

NICE SYSTEMS Ltd. of Tel Aviv reported third-quarter net income of \$1.7m. compared with a loss of \$158,000 during the same period last year. Revenue for the period was up nearly 90% to \$10.2m., from \$6.4m. in the third quarter of 1995.

Nice (Nasdaq: NICEY) specializes in computer telephony integration technology.

MEMCO SOFTWARE Ltd. (Nasdaq: MEMCF) reported third-quarter net income of \$860,000, compared with a loss of \$1.12m. in the same period last year.

Revenues for the Tel Aviv-based security software product developer totaled \$4.2m., up from \$180,000 in the corresponding period one year ago.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patiah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	4.600	4.375
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.875	3.700	3.540
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.825	2.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.825	0.760	1.000
Yen (10 million yen)	-	-	-

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.11.96)

Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.8922	3.8977	3.15	3.22	3.8828
German mark	2.1487	2.1844	2.11	2.22	3.2390
Pound sterling	5.3090	5.3953	5.21	5.48	2.1847
French franc	0.5354	0.5457	0.82	0.88	5.5483
Japanese yen (100)	2.8850	1.9478	0.82	0.88	0.6400
Dutch florin	1.9188	1.9478	2.58	2.68	2.9124
Swiss franc	2.5588	2.6001	2.51	2.64	1.9305
Swedish krona	0.4878	0.4957	0.47	0.51	2.5754
Norwegian krona	0.5118	0.5201	0.50	0.53	0.4915
Danish krone	0.5594	0.5688	0.54	0.58	0.5154
Finnish mark	0.7113	0.7228	0.69	0.74	0.6836
Canadian dollar	2.4073	2.4462	2.38	2.48	0.7172
Australian dollar	2.5369	2.5779	2.49	2.62	2.4289
S. African rand	0.6850	0.6941	0.61	0.70	0.6899
Belgian franc (10)	1.0434	1.0608	1.02	1.08	1.0508
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0558	3.1048	3.00	3.15	3.0775
Italian lira (1000)	2.1285	2.1808	2.08	2.20	2.1428
Austrian lira (1000)	4.4700	4.7700	4.47	4.77	4.5880
Jordanian dinar	0.9100	0.9500	0.91	0.99	1.0382
Egyptian pound	4.1118	5.4100	5.48	5.48	4.1404
Irish punt	5.3241	5.6878	5.50	5.63	5.3615
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5467	2.5878	2.50	2.63	2.5710

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI



HOW DO YOU REALLY LAUNCH A START-UP IN THE AMERICAN MARKET?



YOU ARE INVITED TO FIND OUT THE ANSWER TO THIS AND OTHER QUESTIONS AT THE BRM SEMINAR.

Who is BRM?

The BRM Technologies Group specializes in developing advanced software products. The company has developed anti-virus products and in recent years has developed special expertise in establishing start-up companies from the very early stages. BRM has several success stories to its credit, including CHECKPOINT and BACKWEB. You will find more detailed information on our Internet site www.brm.com.

What will the seminar consist of?

- Welcoming address: Nir Barkat, CEO, the BRM Group.
- Charlie Federman, Chairman, Broadview Associates: Strategic alternatives for a start-up company.
- Eyal Shavik, President Accessnet Group: On being an Israeli start-up.
- Keynote address: Professor Moshe Arens.
- Nir Barkat, Eli Barkat, Yuval Rakavi, Yael Bachar, Israel Fruman, executives at BRM: Executive challenges.
- Aharon Lempert Esq., Nashitz, Brandes & Co.: Legal considerations during the first year.
- Offer Seger CPA, Kost, Lev-Ari & Forer: Accounting considerations during the first year.
- Expert panel: Financing sources in Israel and abroad:
 - Ronald Schreiber, Chairman, Softbank Services Group: A strategic investor.
 - Hani Peres, Rami Kalish - Polaris/Dovrat Chrem Fund: Israeli Venture Capital Fund.
 - Charlie Federman, Geo Capital: American Venture Capital Fund.
- Meeting with entrepreneurs who head young companies.

Where, when, how?

The Start-Up seminar will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 1996, 8:30-16:30, Gan Oranim Hall, Tel-Aviv Exhibition Fair Grounds.

For further details and registration forms, please contact:

- Internet: www.brm.com
- E-mail: seminar@brm.com
- Tel: 03-5651082; Fax: 09-9562314

Cost: NIS 300 + VAT

The price includes lunch, a kit containing background material, and parking. Limited No. of places.



A Technology Power House

Smoltz wins NL Cy Young Award

NEW YORK (AP) - John Smoltz ended Greg Maddux's Cy Young streak at four, easily winning the award Monday and giving the Atlanta Braves four straight winners.

Smoltz received 26 first-place votes and two second-place votes for 136 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers Association of America. Florida's Kevin Brown was second with two firsts, 26 seconds and 88 points. Cardinals right-hander Andy Benes was third with nine points.

Smoltz led the majors in wins with 24.

Atlanta's prized pitching staff became the first to win four consecutive Cy Young Awards and has won five of six, a streak that began with Tom Glavine's in 1991.

Maddux won for the Chicago Cubs the following year and then won each of his first three seasons with the Braves.

Hideo Nomo of the Dodgers was fourth with five points. Tied with Maddux for fifth were Trevor Hoffman of the Padres and Todd Worrell of the Dodgers.

Smoltz, a 29-year-old right-hander, was 24-8 with a 2.94 ERA, winning 14 consecutive decisions from April 9-June 19. He led the majors in strikeouts with 276.

Smoltz, who became a free agent following the World Series, earned a \$250,000 bonus for winning the award on top of his \$ 5.25 million.

Bowlers Donald, Klusener shape South African win

COCHIN, (Reuters) - South African pace bowlers Allan Donald and Lance Klusener demolished Karnataka for the second time to inflict a 244-run defeat on the Ranji Trophy champions yesterday.

Karnataka, set an improbable victory target of 362 on the third and final day, was bundled out for 117 in 20 minutes.

The South African victory was delayed by a two-hour interruption due to afternoon showers, but its bowlers completed the task quickly once play had resumed.

Opener Jagdish Arun Kumar and Fazal Khaleel offered the only resistance to the touring team's pace attack.

Kumar struck three boundaries, in his 33 before being caught behind by Dave Richardson off captain Hansie Cronje's medium pacer.

Cronje was adjudged man of the match for his brilliant knock in South Africa's second innings and positive captaincy.

Khaleel, the top scorer in Karnataka's first innings, hit two boundaries in his second effort of 26.

Donald rattled the Karnataka second innings early on by dismissing opener Sujith Sothasundar and Khaleel, finish-

ing with three for 29 to give him a seven-wicket match haul.

Klusener's second innings haul of three for 32 took his match tally to eight wickets.

He helped to polish off the middle and lower orders after Donald had removed Pram Bathe Shashikanth in his second spell.

The last six Karnataka wickets tumbled for 32 as the touring team completed a crushing victory in the first of two three-day matches ahead of the opening Test against India starting in Ahmedabad on November 20.

South Africa first Innings 243
Karnataka first Innings 115
South Africa second Innings 233
Karnataka second Innings 117

S.Somasundar c Boje b Donald 4
J. Kumar c Richardson b Cronje 33
F.Khaleel lbw b Donald 26
V.Shreeves b Boje 12
H.David c Richardson b Crookes 0
P.Srinivasan c Gibbs b Donald 8
S.Srinivasan c Hudson b Klusener 8
D. Johnson lbw b Crookes 0
G. Ganesh lbw b Klusener 0
A. Katti not out 9
R. Ananth b Klusener 6
Extras (5-6 lb-2 nb-3) 11
Total (fall out, 48.4 overs) 117
Fall of wickets: 1-31 2-44 3-61 4-88 5-90 6-101 7-100 8-109 9-117
Bowling Donald 11-4-29-3 (1 nb), Klusener 12-4-32-3 (2 nb), Cronje 6-3-14-1, Boje 9-4-16-1, Crookes 11-3-18-2.
Result: SAfrica won by 244 runs.

Zola joins Italian invasion of Chelsea

LONDON (AP) - Gianfranco Zola, the latest member of Chelsea's Italian connection, joined Ruud Gullit's Chelsea side after agreeing last week to a £4.5 million transfer fee from Italian side Parma.

Zola is the third Italian to join the London club since former AC Milan and Sampdoria striker Ruud Gullit took over as manager from Glenn Hoddle at the start of the season.

Gianluca Vialli joined from Juventus on a free transfer and Roberto Di Matteo was hired from Lazio for £4.9m. Gullit also recruited French defender Franck Leboeuf.

"You don't get an opportunity like this every day and when I heard Zola might be available I knew that I wanted him to come to Chelsea," Gullit said amid reports that the 30-year-old midfielder will be earning about £25,000 weekly on a 3½-year contract.

"I think with Gianfranco that his qualities are obvious," Gullit added. "He has great technical ability and he sees the game very well."

"At Parma this season he has been a victim of a change in the playing style. If Parma didn't want to use his quality, I knew I'd like to have it."

Zola, who had fallen out with Parma coach Carlo Ancelotti over his role on the team, is one of Europe's most stylish, enterprising and influential players despite being only 5-foot-6 (1.68m). He was a top player for Napoli between 1990-93 before moving to Parma and helping the club win the UEFA Cup in 1994.

"I came to Chelsea because they believed in me," Zola said. "This is a great opportunity for my



BLUE IS THE COLOR - Gianfranco Zola joins fellow Italians Vialli and Di Matteo on English football's premier league.

career and I decided I wanted to play in this team and play in this country.

"I have had problems at Parma this year and the conditions for me weren't ideal. I have spoken to Roberto and to Fabrizio Ravanelli and they told me that English football is good."

It wasn't clear if Zola would

play Saturday against Blackburn. As part of the Zola transfer deal, Chelsea and Parma will play two exhibition games.

Juninho denies leaving Boro Juninho's agent yesterday denied reports that the Brazilian was about to leave

Middlesbrough, and said another Brazilian client - Emerson - would also be staying with the northeastern English club.

Reports said the 23-year-old midfielder had begun talks with several Italian clubs. Last week, Emerson was reported to be unhappy in England and threatened not to return from a vacation

in Brazil.

"If any offers come in from Italy, I'm ready to discuss them," Juninho was quoted in the Daily Mail. "I believe my best prospects lie with Inter Milan. I could also be a success with AC Milan or Juventus."

Gianni Paladini, the agent for both players, said the two would be back when Middlesbrough plays Sunday against Derby.

Udinese denies striker bid for German United While denying that Manchester United made a \$20 million bid for Oliver Bierhoff, Udinese officials said Monday that the German striker is not on for sale.

Bierhoff, who moved to Udinese in 1995 after playing four seasons with Ascoli, became one of the most coveted European players this summer following his outstanding performances with the German team at the European Championships.

He also tallied the winning goal in extra time in the European final against the Czech Republic.

Barcelona: No interest in Newcastle's Ginola Barcelona has denied reports that they are interested in signing Newcastle United's French forward David Ginola.

"There is nothing in it," a Barcelona club source said yesterday. "The club looked at signing him in the close season but in the end he was considered too expensive."

Several Spanish newspapers reported a transfer was possible after Ginola's agent was seen in the president's box at Barcelona's game against Atletico Madrid on Saturday.

Ellis leads Nuggets past Raptors

TORONTO (AP) - Dale Ellis scored 37 points to lead the Denver Nuggets to a 104-93 victory over the Toronto Raptors Monday night.

Ellis hit 15 of 23 shots from the field, including 9 of 15 in the first half as the Nuggets took a 53-34 lead at intermission.

Rookie Marcus Camby, making his first start as a pro, scored 10 straight Toronto points in the third quarter and finished with a career-high 26 points.

Bulls 97, Suns 79 Michael Jordan scored 26 points, Dennis Rodman pulled down 22 rebounds in Chicago's latest victory. The Bulls remained unbeaten while Phoenix is still winless.

Scottie Pippen added 18 points

for the defending NBA champions, who at 7-0 are off to the best start in franchise history. Houston (6-0) is the league's only other undefeated team.

Michael Finley scored 17 points for the Suns (0-6), who are within three losses of their worst start ever.

Spurs-Jazz Postponed In Salt Lake City, a damaged floor at the Delta Center was deemed unsafe and forced the postponement of Utah's game with the San Antonio Spurs.

"There is no way the game can be played tonight," NBA referee Jess Kersey said while workers attempted to repair the floor. "We feel it is necessary to cancel the game for the players' safety."

Edges of the sectioned hardwood floor were sticking up as high as one-eighth of an inch in more than 30 places.

Jazz officials blamed the cause of the problem as a combination of weakened plastic support rods and moisture from the ice rink under the floor.

Only games scheduled.

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Humphries throws three TDs as Chargers hold off Lions

SAN DIEGO (Reuters) - Stan Humphries threw three touchdown passes, including a 46-yarder to Andre Coleman on the final play of the first half, as the San Diego Chargers held off the Detroit Lions 27-21 on Monday.

Humphries, who did not play in last week's victory over Indianapolis due to a dislocated shoulder, completed 24-of-32 passes for 311 yards and three touchdowns.

Humphries hit Tony Martin with a 32-yard strike after 10 minutes of the first quarter to make it 7-0.

His 46-yard "Hail Mary" bomb to Coleman on the final play of the first half gave the Chargers the lead for good, 17-14. Martin had eight receptions for 113 yards.

San Diego (6-4) won its second straight following a three-game losing streak to move within one game of second-place Kansas City in the AFC West.

Detroit (4-6) dropped its fourth straight game to fall into a tie with Chicago for third place in the NFC Central. The Lions have been outscored 127-67 during the

losing streak.

Lions quarterback Scott Mitchell left the game early in the third quarter and did not return after aggravating a rib injury. He was replaced by Don Majkowski, who was 10-for-18 for 110 yards and one touchdown. Mitchell completed 5-of-9 passes for 49 yards before exiting.

Majkowski directed a 12-play, 61-yard drive, capped by his one-yard touchdown pass to Brett Perriman with 1:52 remaining in the fourth quarter to pull the Lions within 27-21. The ensuing onside kick by Jason Hanson was recovered by San Diego linebacker Junior Seau, sealing the victory.

The Chargers dominated time of possession, holding the ball for 40:39, while Detroit had possession for just 19:21. The Chargers won despite being penalized 11 times for 129 yards.

Detroit's Barry Sanders rushed for two touchdowns, but was limited to 51 yards on 16 carries.

Leonard Russell carried 20 times for a game-high 80 yards for San Diego.

Hapoel beat Maccabi in Tel Aviv Toto Cup derby

FEWER than 1,000 spectators turned out to see the Tel Aviv derby match between Maccabi and Hapoel at the National Stadium yesterday in the Toto Cup fixture held over from the weekend.

The match went against current form, with Hapoel, which is in financial turmoil turning the tables on Maccabi, earning a 3-1 win.

A Maccabi win would have ensured a semifinal berth but they will have to wait until after the final round of matches to see whether they go through to the latter stages of the competition.

Yossi Madar drew first blood for Hapoel with a penalty in the 30th minute and two more goals in the second half by Alon Hazan in the 50th and Sagiv Eliahu in the 61st ensured the win for Hapoel.

Ofir Mizrahi scored a consolation effort for Maccabi 11 minutes from time.

The fifth round of Toto Cup action will be completed today when Maccabi Haifa hosts Hapoel Beersheba today.

In other news, the turmoil at Maccabi Herzliya continues as the club searches for a new coach and chairman.

Fired coach Gil Landau refused to turn up for training yesterday after pleas by Herzliya Mayor Eli Landau that he should do so. The mayor said he was hopeful of naming a replacement by this morning but gave no indication as to who his candidate might be.

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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL - Cup Winners' Cup; Last night's result: Racing Paris 83, Hapoel Jerusalem 62.

NHL - Monday's results: Buffalo 3, Florida 2 (OT); Montreal 3, Edmonton 2 (OT); Colorado 6, NY Islanders 2; Vancouver 3, NY Rangers 2; Dallas 3, Anaheim 2.

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Women's prayer group attacked at Western Wall

Hoffman: Incident was set to coincide with Dayan visit

THE Women of the Wall were the object of haredi violence at the Western Wall yesterday and were forcibly ejected from the area by police, though they have prayed regularly at the Wall without incident over the past six years, according to a spokesperson for the group.

"I was praying. All of a sudden, I heard this ooe guy yelling ... then I heard boom, boom, they were throwing items. I think a chair, over the divider," said Rachel Jaskow, a member of Women of the Wall.

Jerusalem Municipal Council member Anat Hoffman, who is also a member of the group, said the apparent reason for yesterday's violence was the planned visit to the area of the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women, scheduled for later that day. Committee head Yael Dayan (Labor) postponed the visit until today, after religious lawmakers warned her of more violence.

Hoffman said she and other members of the group believe they were ambushed by a group of about 10 men, who had come

specifically for this purpose. Even before the group began praying, she said, these men began attacking them from the men's section with chairs and boards. Instead of stopping the attackers, she said, the police forced the group of women to leave the area.

She quoted a police officer as telling her, "You can't pray like that." When she asked to what he objected, he pointed out that four members of the group of over 40 women were wearing kippot.

Jerusalem district police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said the group of several dozen women had wanted to pray at the Wall wearing kippot and that some men had objected and thrown benches at the women. No arrests were made, he said. None of the women were hurt, but one policeman was injured by a bench.

The police moved the women from the women's section to the

Western Wall Plaza and from there to a place in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City where they completed their prayers, Ben-Ruby said.

"We are checking the details of the incident," he said.

Hoffman said that for the past six years the women had been praying at the Western Wall on every Rosh Hodesh, which marks the beginning of the Hebrew month, as well as on holidays and fast days like Simhat Torah, the Fast of Esther and Tisha Be'av. During that time, no acts of violence had been committed against them, she said.

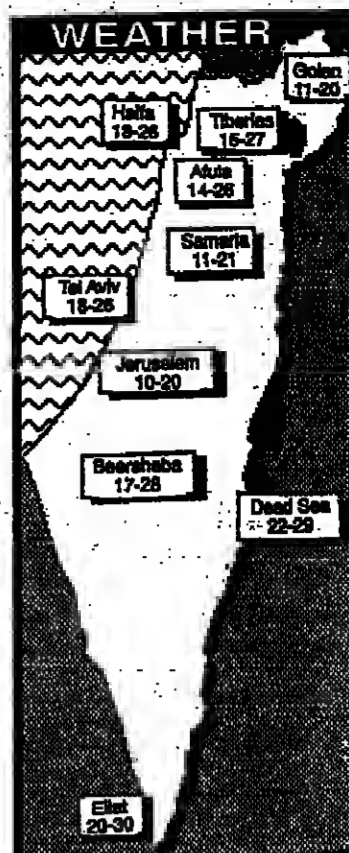
"The regular worshippers have come to accept us," she said.

The Women of the Wall, a group which includes Orthodox, Conservative and Reform women, originally tried to read from a Torah scroll during their prayers at the Western Wall. When the courts ruled that they could not do so, they limited themselves to reciting together those prayers for which a minyan - a quorum of 10 men - is not required.



Police receive 44 new vehicles yesterday at a ceremony at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds. Each vehicle cost NIS 150,000 and is equipped with the latest in hi-tech accessories to help police crack down on traffic offenders and reduce road accidents. Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani warned drivers to "watch out - Big Brother is watching from up above."

(Text: Raina Marcus, Photo: Dan Ossendyver/Israel Sun)



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear; slightly lower temperatures.

Knesset OKs Matza appointment

THE Knesset confirmed Likud MK Yehoshua Matza as the new health minister yesterday. Matza's new job was affirmed

LIAT COLLINS

by 50 votes to one. Only Ahmed Sa'ad, (Hadash) voted against

Matza, and 20 opposition MKs abstained.

In the same session, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon read the announcement by Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh appointing former health minister Tzahi Hanegbi (Likud) as justice minister. Since Hanegbi was already in the cabinet, the change did not require Knesset approval.

Hanegbi has been acting justice minister for several months, since Ya'acov Ne'eman was forced to resign to face criminal charges related to the Aryeh Deri trial.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, asking the Knesset's approval for Matza's appointment, recalled his contribution as a member of the pre-State Lehi underground, a long-serving parliamentarian and former chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee, which often dealt with health-related issues.

"We need your strength and your energy," Netanyahu told Matza.

MK Shevah Weiss (Labor) criticized Hanegbi's appointment, although he said he wished him well and hoped he would become more moderate in the new position.

AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Forecast
Alexandria	18	24	partly cloudy
Bahia	24	30	partly cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	18	partly cloudy
Calcutta	24	30	partly cloudy
Chicago	10	16	partly cloudy
Copenhagen	10	16	partly cloudy
Hong Kong	24	30	partly cloudy
London	10	16	partly cloudy
Los Angeles	18	24	partly cloudy

Winning cards and numbers

The winning numbers in last night's Loto draw were 1, 5, 17, 24, 31 and 34. The additional number was 49.

In yesterday's daily Chance draw the winning cards were the seven of spades, king of hearts, eight of diamonds and ace of clubs.

Knesset panel orders police to collect bail money

MANY people are forced to spend a night in jail even though they have been approved for bail, because police stations have no facilities for accepting bail money, the Knesset Law Committee heard yesterday. Thus, someone arrested after the banks have closed for the day has no way to post bail, and the police hold him overnight. The committee ordered the police to establish facilities for collecting bail payments at police stations. Evelyn Gordon

Amir appeals sentence for conspiring to kill Arabs

EVELYN GORDON

YIGAL Amir appealed to the Supreme Court to overturn his conviction for conspiring to murder Arabs yesterday, arguing he cannot be found guilty of a conspiracy that remained purely theoretical.

Amir - along with brother Haggai and Dror Adani - was convicted by the Tel Aviv District Court last month of conspiracy, and illegal possession and manufacture of weapons. The court sentenced him to five years in prison, which will be added to his sentence of life plus six years for murdering prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and wounding bodyguard Yoram Rubin.

Amir's attorney, Shmuel Fleishman, argued that no one has ever before been convicted for conspiracy without having taken concrete steps to carry out their plans. This was not the case with the Amirs and Adani, Fleishman said, because their "plan" was conditional on a number of developments that never took place and

never were likely to do so, either. According to the district court, Fleishman said, the three had decided to carry out reprisals against Arabs only if a series of conditions were fulfilled. The first was in the case of an IDF withdrawal from Judea and Samaria that left Jewish settlements unprotected. If such a withdrawal were followed by a government figure organizing a self-defense group for the settlements, the Amirs and Adani would join. And if there were then an attack against the settlements by Palestinians, the three would fight.

Since none of these developments even now are contemplated, Fleishman said, the Amirs' "plans" were more fantasy than conspiracy. Convicting someone on the basis of mere talk that had no likelihood of turning into action violates legal precedent and turns government into "Big Brother," Fleishman said.

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